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April 28, 2009

Employer Code: 5594/5895

Job Code: P08-015

California Department of General Services Deborah Vaughn, Chief Offic of Human Resources 707 3rd Street, 7th Floor West Sacramento, CA 95605

Dear Ms. Vaughn:

Enclosed is our final report on the results of the review completed for the California Department of General Services. As part of our review resolution process, we have referred the issues identified in the report to the appropriate divisions at CalPERS. Please work with these divisions to address the recommendations specified in our report. It was our pleasure to work with your agency and we appreciate the time and assistance of you and your staff during this review.

Sincerely,

Ĺarry∕∌ensen, CIA

Chief, Office of Audit Services

Enclosure

cc: Finance Committee Members, CalPERS

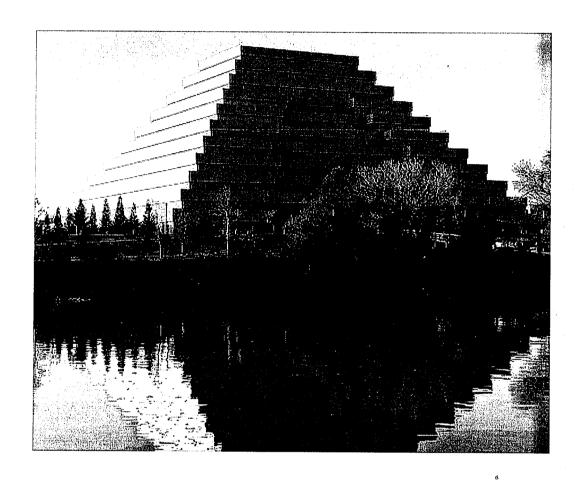
Peter Mixon, General Counsel, CalPERS Lori McGartland, Chief, ERSD, CalPERS Mary Lynn Fisher, Chief, BNSD, CalPERS

Holly Fong, Chief, EMHS, CalPERS

Maria Lopez, Manager, Personnel Operations, DGS

Louise Norton, Manager, Personnel Transaction Unit, DGS

Department of General Services



State Agency Review



Employer Code 5594/5895 Job # P08-015 April 2009



Memorandum

California Public Employees' Retirement System

Date: April 28, 2009

Job Code: P08-015

Employer Code: 5594/5895

To: Ronald L. Seeling, Chief Actuary

Actuarial and Employer Services Branch

From: Larry Jensen Cal

Chief, Office of Audit Services

Subject: FINAL REPORT

California Department of General Services

We have enclosed our final report of the California Department of General Services as it relates to their mandatory benefits with the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS).

We discussed the risks and recommendations with the California Department of General Services' management and key staff members. Their written response indicates agreement with all the recommendations in the report. The California Department of General Services' written response is included as an appendix to the report.

Attachment

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RESULTS IN BRIEF

During the review period, the California Department of General Services (DGS) appropriately enrolled individuals, timely submitted health and retirement contributions, accurately reported member earnings and provided the required health, retirement and Automated Communications Exchange System (ACES) documentation to CalPERS for the employees included in our test sample, except for the instances noted in the Risk and Mitigation Table. Specifically, DGS:

- Did not enroll two temporary/part-time employees in CalPERS membership.
- Unlawfully employed one retired annuitant who worked over the 960 hour threshold.
- Incorrectly certified unused sick leave credit for one employee.
- Did not have proper health benefit documentation on file for three members.
- Did not provide verification of eligibility for four dependents enrolled in health benefits.
- Did not correctly complete and maintain ACES user security agreements for 31 employees.

The detail of these exceptions is included in the Risk and Mitigation Table.

BACKGROUND

The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) provides a variety of programs serving members employed by more than 2,500 local public agencies as well as state agencies and state universities. The agencies contract with CalPERS for retirement benefits, with CalPERS providing actuarial services necessary for the agencies to fund their benefit structure. In addition, CalPERS provides services which facilitate the retirement process.

CalPERS Employer Services Division (ERSD) manages contract coverage for public agencies and receives, processes, and posts payroll information. CalPERS Benefit Services Division (BNSD) provides services for eligible members who apply for service or disability retirement. BNSD sets up retirees' accounts, processes applications, calculates retirement allowances, prepares monthly retirement benefit payment rolls, and makes adjustments to retirement benefits. The Health Benefits Branch (HBB) provides eligibility and enrollment services to the members and employers that participate in the CalPERS health benefits program, including state, public agencies, and schools.

State members include state miscellaneous, highway patrol, state safety, state industrial and state peace officer/firefighter (POFF) members. California Government Code (GC), §20370 through §20445, provides detailed definitions for these classifications. These classifications denote different retirement benefit formulas, which include: 2% at age 55 for state miscellaneous or industrial members (GC §21354.1); 3% at age 50 for state patrol members (GC §21362.2); 2.5% at age 55 for state safety members (GC §21369.1); 3% at age 55 for POFF and local safety members (GC §21363.1); and, 3% at age 50 for POFF members (GC §21363.4 and §21363.8).

Retirement allowances are computed using three factors: years of service, age at retirement and final compensation. Final compensation is defined as the highest average annual compensation earnable by a member during the last one or three consecutive years of employment (one year for all state and school members and public agency members with the one-year final compensation as a contract provision) unless the member elects a different period with a higher average.

Unlike contracting agency retirement benefit program operations, state agencies do not report member enrollment and monthly payroll data to CalPERS. Instead, each state agency inputs membership and payroll information with special designated codes into the Personnel Information Management System (PIMS) through Personnel Action Request (PAR) forms. PIMS contains official personnel, payroll, and retirement information for state employees. The State Controller's Office (SCO) has the responsibility for maintenance and security of PIMS.

In accordance with the SCO's published Personnel Action Manual (PAM) and Payroll Procedures Manual (PPM), state agencies input necessary personnel and payroll changes into PIMS. The system automatically passes data fields that are necessary for retirement benefit calculations to CalPERS via CalPERS' Transaction Log (T-Log). The data from PIMS updates the appropriate CalPERS application systems, such as, the Contribution Reporting System (CRS), Retirement Information Benefit System (RIBS) and CalPERS Online Member and Employer Transaction System (COMET). One critical data element passed on from state agencies to CalPERS, via the SCO, is the employee's Retirement Account Code (RAC). The RAC is a one or two digit alpha or numeric code used by PIMS to designate an employee's retirement status. During system updates from SCO to CalPERS, the RAC for each employee is converted to a coverage group code, which is significant for determining retirement contribution levels while the employee is active and the retirement formula when the employee is applying for retirement.

In general, when changes are mandated by law or contract, without the need for state agencies to prepare payroll change documents, payroll changes may be made automatically by the SCO. However, each agency has full responsibility for preparing accurate PAR forms, employee attendance reports, and selecting appropriate compensation codes. California State Civil Service Pay Scales are published by the Department of Personnel Administration (DPA). The PPM, at Section G 105, outlines miscellaneous special compensation payment processing methods and whether they are subject to CalPERS for the purpose of retirement calculation.

The SCO also has the responsibility for processing the health care contribution amounts for state employees and state agencies. Based on the information contained in PIMS, the SCO identifies and remits the state's contribution and the amounts authorized by employees and annuitants to be deducted from their salaries or retirement allowances for payment of contributions.

The DGS serves as business manager for the State of California, with more than 4,000 employees and a budget in excess of one billion dollars. The DGS helps to better serve the public by providing a variety of services to state agencies through innovative procurement and acquisition solutions, creative real estate management and design, state-of-the-art telecommunications, environmentally friendly transportation, and funding for the construction of safe schools.

SCOPE

As part of the Board approved plan for fiscal year 2008-2009, we reviewed a sample of the DGS's personnel and payroll records and the DGS's payroll reporting and enrollment processes as these records and processes relate to the DGS's health and retirement mandates with CalPERS. The objective of this review was limited to the determination that the DGS complied with applicable sections of the California Government Code (Sections 20000 et seq.) and Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations and that prescribed reporting and enrollment procedures were followed. The on-site fieldwork for this review was conducted during the months of September and October 2008.

The review period was limited to the examination of the records and processes from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008. To accomplish the review objectives, we performed the following:

- ✓ Reviewed the mandated requirements the DGS had with CalPERS, correspondence files maintained at CalPERS, and employment agreements the DGS had with its employees.
- ✓ Interviewed key staff members to obtain an understanding of the DGS' personnel and payroll procedures.
- Reviewed the payroll transactions for employees and compared the DGS' payroll information with the data reported to CalPERS to determine whether the DGS correctly reported compensation.
- Reviewed the DGS' payroll information reported to CalPERS for the sampled employees to determine if payrates were reported pursuant to public salary information.
- Reviewed enrollment practices pertaining to temporary employees, retired annuitants, and independent contractors to determine whether eligible DGS employees sampled were properly enrolled or excluded from membership.
- ✓ Examined the DGS' classification of employees to determine if the DGS classified employees sampled in the appropriate coverage groups. The RAC, which is entered by the DGS into the SCO system, is converted to the coverage group code when the information is reported to CalPERS.
- Examined the DGS' calculation and reporting of unused sick leave balances for a sample of retiring employees.
- ✓ Sampled employees and their dependents to determine whether the DGS properly enrolled eligible individuals in the CalPERS health benefits program.
- ✓ Determined whether the DGS maintained the required user security documents on file and reasonable security procedures were in place for ACES users.

RISK AND MITIGATION TABLE

In developing our opinions, we considered the following risks and mitigations. We also include our observations and recommendations.

RISK	MITIGATION & OBSERVATION	RECOMMENDATION
The DGS may not accurately report compensation to CaIPERS.	We reviewed payroll records and compensation reported to CalPERS for a sample of 23 employees over two service periods. The service periods reviewed were the June 2007 (6/07-0) and June 2008 (6/08-0). We determined that compensation was accurately reported to CalPERS.	None.
2. The DGS may not report payrates in accordance with publicly available salary schedules.	We reviewed payrates reported to CalPERS and reconciled the payrates to the DPA's public salary information to determine if payrates for the sampled employees were properly authorized. We determined the DGS paid and reported salaries pursuant to the authorized published salary information.	None
3. The DGS may not enroll all eligible employees into CalPERS membership.	We selected a sample of 10 temporary/part-time employees and examined the number of hours worked in fiscal years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 to determine if they reached or exceeded the 1,000 hour membership criteria and were timely enrolled, or if they had prior membership and should have been enrolled upon employment by the	The DGS should work with CalPERS ERSD to identify the impact of non-reporting issue and determine what adjustments are necessary.

RECOMMENDATION	A confidential list identifying the individuals mentioned in this report has been sent to the DGS and the CalPERS ERSD under separate cover.	The DGS should monitor the hours worked for all retired annuitants. The DGS should work with CalPERS BNSD to identify the impact of this unlawful employment and determine what adjustments are necessary. A confidential list identifying the individual mentioned in this report has been sent to the DGS and the CalPERS BNSD under separate cover.
MITIGATION & OBSERVATION	agency. We determined two employees met eligibility due to their prior membership, but the DGS did not report the members' earnings to CaIPERS. Government Code, § 20305, states, in part, "(a) An employee serving on a less than full-time basis is excluded from this system unless: (1) He or she is a member at the time he or she renders less than full-time service and is not otherwise excluded pursuant to this article or by a provision of a contract."	Maximum Hours Threshold We reviewed the hours worked for 10 retired annuitants in fiscal year 2006/2007 and 2007/2008. Our sample testing revealed that one retired annuitant exceeded the 960 hour threshold in fiscal year 2007/2008. Government Code, § 21224, states, in part, "(a) A retired person may serve without reinstatement from retirement or loss or interruption of benefits provided by this system upon appointment by the appointing power of a state agency or public agency employer either during an emergency to prevent stoppage of public business or because the retired employee has skills needed in performing work of limited duration. These appointments
RISK	3. The DGS may not enroll all eligible employees into CaIPERS membership. (continued)	4. The DGS may unlawfully employ retired annuitants.

PECOMMENDATION				None.	None.	The DGS should work with CaIPERS BNSD to identify the impact of this incorrect reporting and determine what adjustments are necessary.
MITEATION & ORCEDVATION	MILITER FILON & OBSERVATION	shall not exceed a total for all employers of 960 hours in any fiscal year."	Bona Fide Separation	We also determined that a bona fide separation from employment, per Government Code § 21220.5, was not needed as two of the sampled retired annuitants retired prior to the enactment of the law and eight retired annuitants were beyond the normal retirement age.	We examined the appropriateness and accuracy of the assigned RACs by testing a sample of 14 employees representing 14 types of RACs utilized by the DGS. We traced each sampled employee's RAC and verified whether the coverage group was consistent with the information in the CalPERS database. We determined the DGS accurately assigned RACs in accordance with SCO's PAM.	We reviewed the unused sick leave balances for a sample of nine retirees to determine if the DGS properly computed and reported the balances. We determined the DGS did not accurately certify the unused sick leave balance to CalPERS for one retiree.
OKK		4. The DGS may unlawfully employ retired	(continued)		5. The DGS may not appropriately report members under the proper classification coverage group code.	6. The DGS may not accurately report unused sick leave balances for retiring CalPERS members.

RECOMMENDATION	A confidential list identifying the individual mentioned in this report has been sent to the DGS and the CalPERS BNSD under separate cover.	The DGS must ensure that the proper member and dependent enrollment documentation is on file at the DGS within 60 days from the date of our final report. Please contact the CaIPERS HBB at (916) 795-3836, once the documentation is on file. A confidential list identifying the individuals mentioned in this
MITIGATION & OBSERVATION	Government Code, § 20963(a), states, "A state, school, or school safety member, whose effective date of retirement is within four months of separation from employment with the employer subject to this section that granted the sick leave credit, shall be credited at his or her retirement with 0.004 year of service credit for each unused day of sick leave certified to the board by the employer. The certification shall report only those days of unused sick leave that were accrued by the member during the normal course of his or her employment and shall not include any additional days of sick leave reported for the purpose of increasing the member's retirement benefit. Reports of unused days of sick leave shall be subject to audit and retirement benefits may be adjusted where improper reporting is found."	We reviewed a sample of 10 employees to assess the health benefits eligibility and enrollment of members and their dependents. Our sample testing revealed the DGS properly enrolled eligible employees and their dependents in CalPERS' health benefits program, except for the following: The DGS did not have the required Declaration of Health Coverage (HB-12A) on file for three members and did not provide verification of dependent eligibility for four dependents enrolled under three members' health
RISK	6. The DGS may not accurately report unused sick leave balances for retiring CaIPERS members. (continued)	7. The DGS may not properly enroll eligible employees and their dependents in health benefits.

RECOMMENDATION	section of the report was sent to the DGS and CalPERS HBB under a separate cover.
MITIGATION & OBSERVATION	benefits, including documentation to support one spouse, two children and one step child. The HB-12A provides information on enrollment options and consequences for non-enrollment. The HB-12A is to ensure compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Effective January 1, 1998, each employee must sign the HB-12A when they are first eligible to enroll or when they make any change to their health coverage. This includes Open Enrollment changes, changing health plans when moving, adding or deleting a dependent, or canceling health benefits. The employer must provide the HB-12A at the time the employee requests enrollment or with the Health Benefit Plan Enrollment (HBD-12) form. The employer also must provide the employee's file. Government Code, § 22775, defines "family member" as the employee's or annuitant's spouse or domestic partner and any unmarried child, including an adopted child, a stepchild, or recognized natural child. The board shall, by regulation, prescribe age limits and other conditions and limitations pertaining to unmarried children.
RISK	7. The DGS may not properly enroll eligible employees and their dependents in health benefits. (continued)

RECOMMENDATION			The DGS should work with CalPERS ERSD to ensure that ACES user security agreements are completed, submitted and maintained.
MITIGATION & OBSERVATION	Government Code, § 22797, states, "The board or an authorized representative may perform audits of each employer and may, at a specified time and place, require the employer to provide information or make available for examination and copying books, papers, data and records, including, but not limited to, personnel and payroll records, as deemed necessary by the board to determine compliance with the provisions of this part. The information obtained from an employer shall remain confidential."	California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Subchapter 3, § 599.500, states, in part, "(f) 'Enroll' means to file with the employing office properly completed Health Benefits Plan Enrollment Form electing to be enrolled in a health benefits plan(h) 'Register not to enroll' means to file with the employing office a properly completed Health Benefits Plan Enrollment Form electing not to be enrolled in a health benefits plan(k) 'Eligible' means eligible under the law and this subchapter to be enrolled."	We reviewed the security procedures for the DGS' ACES users to determine if reasonable security precautions were maintained and to determine if the required security documents were properly completed and filed for ACES users.
RISK	7. The DGS may not properly enroll eligible employees and their dependents in health benefits.		8. The DGS may not maintain appropriate ACES security procedures.

RECOMMENDATION	A confidential list identifying the individuals mentioned in this report has been sent to the DGS and CalPERS ERSD under separate cover.	4
MITIGATION & OBSERVATION	We determined the DGS practiced reasonable security procedures to protect passwords and unauthorized access to ACES. However, the DGS did not complete and maintain the appropriate ACES documentation for 31 ACES users, including five ACES users who did not have a Delete Access form completed and/or submitted, two employees who should have been disabled, four ACES user forms that were incomplete, and 21 ACES users who had no user form on file at the DGS.	California Public Employees' Retirement System Employer User Security Agreement form, PERS-AESD-43, states, in part, "This form must be completed for each employee using CalPERS online access and be available to CalPERS upon request. Forms must be RETAINED IN A SECURE WORK SITE LOCATION of the Employer, for the life of the Agreement and for two years following the deactivation or termination of the Agreement ACES Administrators' responsibilities: Immediately fill out, electronically submit, and maintain a copy of the Delete "ACES User Access" form (AESD-42) for all ACES users who no longer have ACES access."
RISK	8. The DGS may not maintain appropriate ACES security procedures. (continued)	

CONCLUSION

We limited this review to the areas specified in the scope section of this report. We limited our test of transactions to samples of the DGS's payroll reports and personnel records. The sample testing procedures provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that these transactions complied with the California Government Code, except as noted above.

Respectfully submitted,

Łarry/Jensen, CIA

Chief, Office of Audit Services

Date: April 2009

Staff: Michael Dutil, CIA, Audit Manager

Jodi Epperson Emma Shaw

APPENDIX

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES' WRITTEN RESPONSE

DGS

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

Administration Division Office of Human Resources

April 9, 2009

California Public Employee's Retirement System Larry Jensen, CIA Chief, Office of Audit Services P.O. Box 942701 Sacramento, CA 94229-2701

Dear Mr. Jensen:

This letter outlines the Department of General Services, Office of Human Resources (OHR), Personnel Transaction Unit (PTU) responses to the areas of concern raised in the CalPERS compliance review for mandated retirement benefits.

Employees with membership reporting errors

<u>Findings:</u> Two temporary/part-time employees met eligibility due to their prior membership, but DGS did not report the member's earnings to CalPERS.

Recommendation: The DGS should work with CalPERS ERSD to identify the impact of non-reporting issue and determine what adjustments are necessary.

OHR Response: The two employees identified are casual employees who work six months on and are off for a minimum of three months before being re-hired. PTU will review employment records for all casual employees and verify they have met the eligibility requirements to be enrolled in CalPERS or that they were previous CalPERS members. PTU will work with CalPERS ERSD to determine appropriate adjustments and process any necessary corrections to their employment histories.

Retirees unlawfully employed

<u>Findings:</u> One retired annuitant exceeded the 960 hour threshold in fiscal year 2007/2008.

Recommendation: The DGS should monitor the hours worked for all retired annuitants.

OHR Response: The PTU will work with DGS Programs and Attendance Clerks on procedures for tracking hours worked in a Fiscal Year by Retired Annuitants.

Retirees with unused sick leave reporting errors

<u>Findings:</u> The DGS over reported the balance of unused sick leave for one employee.

<u>Recommendations:</u> The DGS should work with CalPERS BNSD to identify the impact of this incorrect reporting and determine necessary adjustments.

OHR Response: The PTU specialists will ensure they keep copies of the CalPERS Service Retirement Election Application, PERS-BSD-369-S, Section 6, Employer Certification and compare it to the actual leave balances when the Position Action Request (PAR) form is keyed and/or submitted to SCO for keying. If there are any discrepancies between the Service Retirement Election Application and actual sick leave balances, the specialist will submit a corrected copy to CalPERS. These steps will be reviewed in the PTU All Staff meetings.

Employees with CalPERS health benefits enrollment errors

<u>Findings</u>: The DGS did not have the required Declaration of Health Coverage (HB-12A) on file for three members, did not provide verification of dependent eligibility for four dependents enrolled under three members' health benefits, including documentation to support one spouse, two children and one step child.

<u>Recommendations:</u> The DGS must ensure that the proper member and dependent enrollment documentation is on file at the DGS within 60 days from the date of our final report.

OHR Response: The PTU has requested and received three of the five enrollment documents noted in the audit (see attached). The PTU manager will follow-up with the one remaining active employee for the required documentation, the other employee has since retired and did not respond to multiple requests for the required documentation.

The PTU will distribute an HR memo to all Attendance Clerks, Supervisors and Managers informing them of the need to ensure the proper documentation (i.e., marriage certificates, birth certificates, HB-12A, etc.) are submitted when an employee is newly employed with the State and that the HB-12A must be re-submitted any time there is a change to the employee's health benefits.

Employees with ACES security agreement errors

<u>Findings:</u> The DGS did not complete and maintain the appropriate ACES documentation for 31 ACES users, including five ACES users who did not have a Delete Access form completed and/or submitted, two employees who should have been disabled, four ACES user forms that were incomplete, and 21 ACES users who had no user form on file at the DGS.

<u>Recommendations:</u> The DGS should work with CalPERS ERSD to ensure that ACES user security agreements are completed, submitted and maintained.

OHR Response: The PTU has corrected the following: the five ACES users no longer working in PTU have been deleted and their forms are on file (one has since returned to PTU and has been re-activated in ACES); the two employees who should have been disabled have been disabled (one has since returned to work and has been re-activated in ACES); and the four ACES user forms have been completed (one has since left PTU and has been disabled and the form is on file).

Of the 21 ACES users who did not have a form on file, 20 have not worked for PTU prior to January 2008. The PTU was unable to locate any additional records than the ones provided. The previous PTU supervisors that were responsible for the ACES security agreements have since left DGS and were not available. The one remaining ACES user with no form on file has since left PTU and the record has been disabled and the form is on file.

The PTU has developed procedures for the completion, submission and maintenance of the ACES security agreement forms.

In closing, the OHR is committed to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of our internal control processes, and we believe significant steps have been implemented which will generate positive results.

Please feel free to contact me at (916) 376-5413 if you have any questions.

Deborah Vaughn, Chief

Office of Human Resources

cc: Maria Lopez, Manager, Personnel Operations Louise Norton, Manager, Personnel Transaction Unit

Amendment to original response:

OHR Response: The PTU has requested and received three of the five enrollment documents noted in the audit (see attached). The PTU manager will follow-up with the one remaining active employee for the required documentation, the other employee has since retired and did not respond to multiple requests for the required documentation.

The one remaining active employee has completed and submitted the requested document and it is included with the attachments.